



Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No. 10/510,109

Attorney Docket No.: Q83563

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 3 is amended to show the plunger pin consistently with its depiction in Fig. 1.

Figure 4 is amendment to show the splines.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets
Replacement Sheets



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REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action & Formalities

Status of Claims

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 3, amending claims 1, 4, 10, 12, and 13, and adding new claims 19. No new matter is added.

Additional Fees

Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time with fee.

Drawings

The Examiner objects to the drawings for the reasons set forth at page 2 of the Office Action dated May 16, 2006. Applicant is amending the drawings. However, regarding the splines, Applicant notes that numeral 35 correctly references the same spline in Figs. 1 and 2. Figure 2 is a section taken along line A-A in Fig. 1, which is upstream of outlet 31. Figure 2, therefore, correctly shows four splines in section at 3, 6, 9, and 12 O'clock.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The phrase "the abutment zone is remotely located form the contact zone," in the last line of claim 10, is allegedly not found in the specification. Support for this feature can be found at page 9. lines 21-26. Nevertheless, Applicant is further amending the specification to address this objection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Rejections

1. Claims 1-5, 9-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garcia (US 5,096,098) in view of Clanet et al. (US 5,624,055).

2. Claims 1, 6, 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lacout (FR 2 772 010) in view of Clanet et al. (US 5,624,055).

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that the shutter (4) comprises an *elongated* plunger pin (40) connected to a shoulder (44), the plunger pin thus defining a free end forming the contact zone (41) designed to close the dispenser orifice (31) selectively, the shoulder (44) defining the abutment zone (34). As recited in claim 1, the pin is elongated from the shoulder to the contact zone, further emphasizing the remote location of the abutment zone. This feature is not taught or suggest in any prior art.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the shutter comprises an elongated plunger pin that extends within an elongated outlet section of the duct, the outlet section having an interior surface opposing an exterior surface of the pin and spaced apart from the exterior surface of the pin, and wherein the outlet section is disposed between the abutment zone and the contact zone.

In addition to amending the claims as set forth above to more precisely define the claimed structure, Applicant maintains the arguments set forth in its last response. Indeed, the

combination of a frustoconical contact with an abutment zone to limit the penetration of the pin is not disclosed in any of the cited documents. Moreover, the problem of the jamming of the pin is not even mentioned in the cited documents.

New Claims

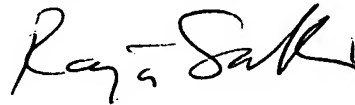
For additional claim coverage merited by the scope of the invention, Applicant is adding new claim 19, which is believed to be allowable at least by reason of its dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 18, 2006



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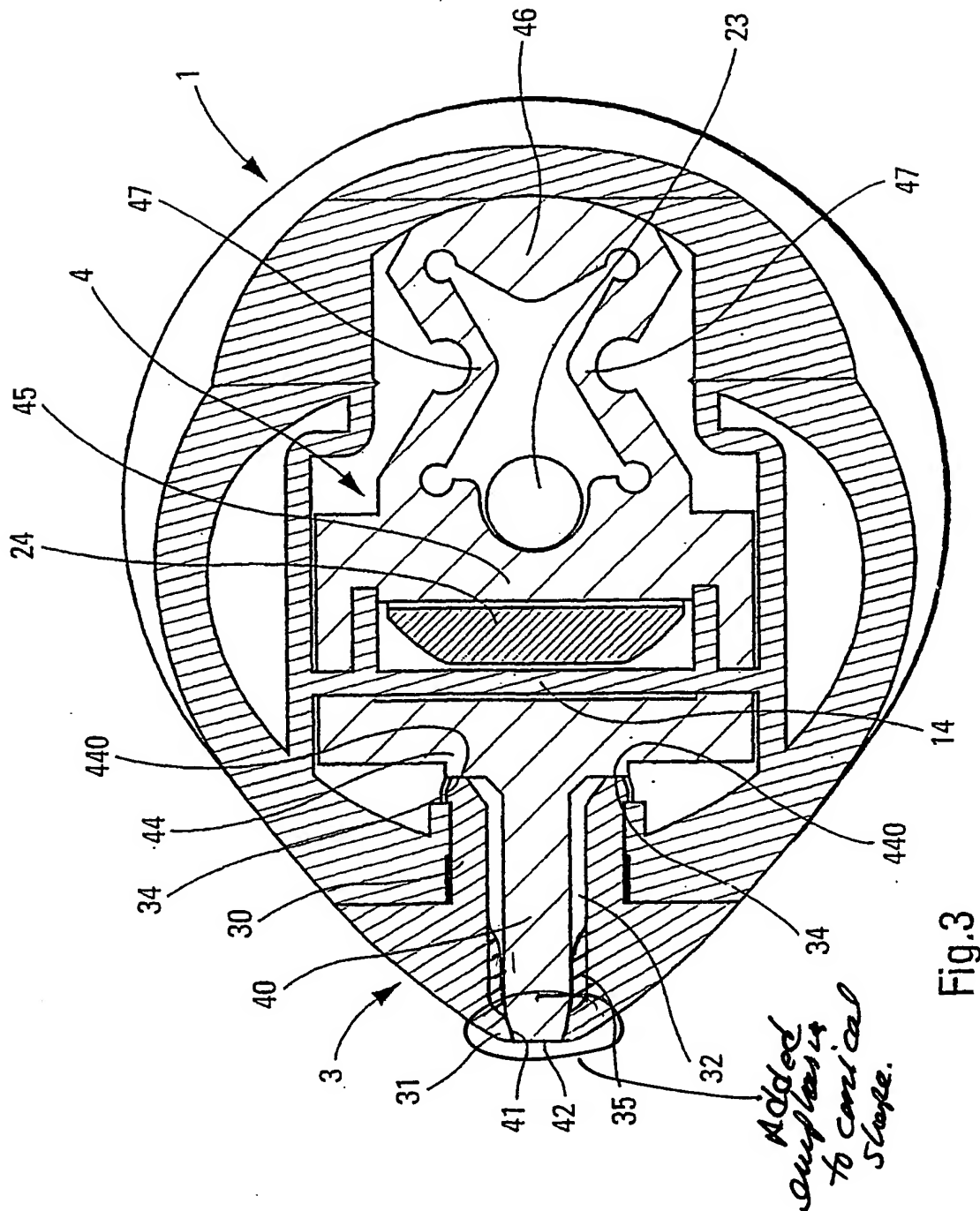


Fig.3

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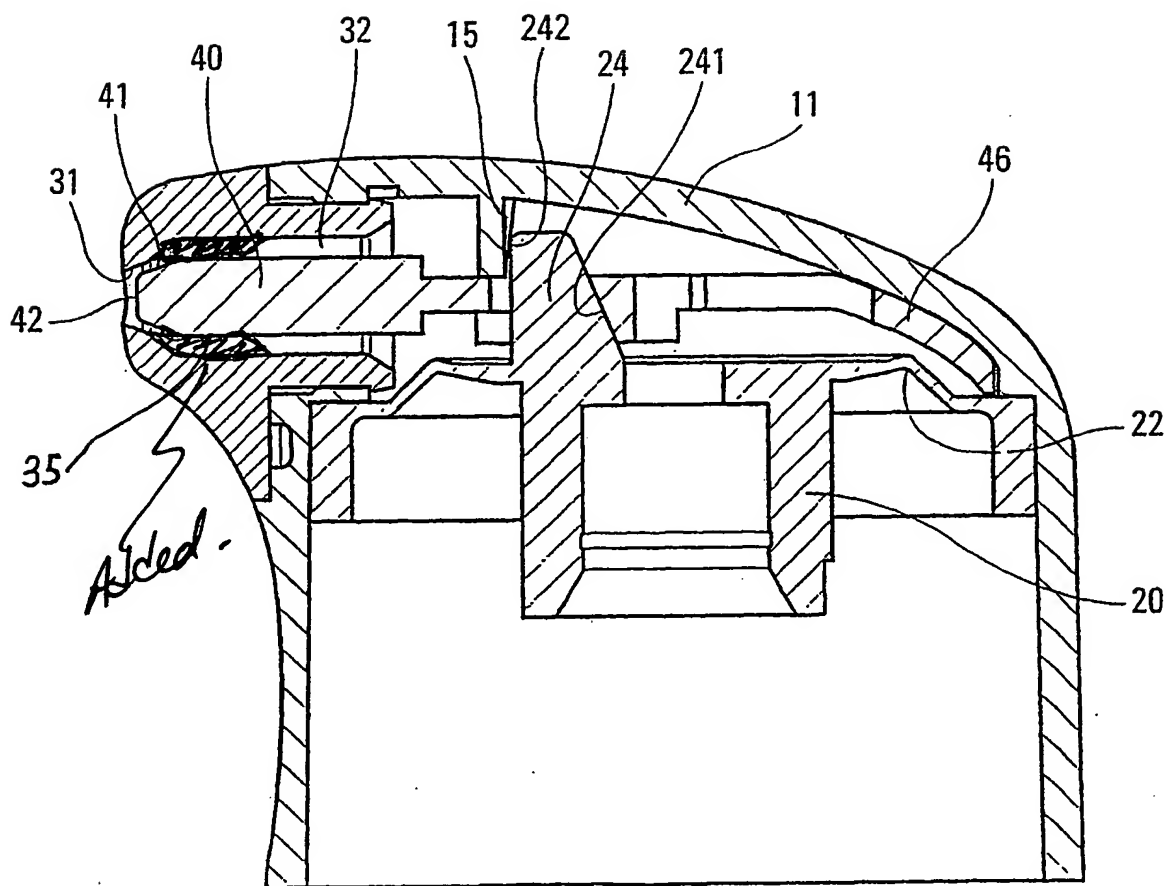


Fig. 4